

## Instant pickets man factory gates

## British Council axe

...enditure cuts could force the British Council to close its offices in thirty countries over the next years and lose up to a third of its home and overseas staff, Sir John Holroyd, the director general, says.

Page 4

## Forgo pay mi future, Sir De

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh celebrated their 32nd wedding anniversary at Balmoral yesterday. With them are Princess Anne, her son Peter, Prince Edward, Prince Charles and Prince Andrew.

But the tough stand taken by the Prime Minister today was

**itancy to save**

The explanation from Whitehall was that Mr Rubinstein had sought an interview with Sir Robert Armstrong, Secretary to the Cabinet, on anything

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by Geraldine Norman; Ian Bradley  
Levin on the Blunt affair; opening  
treasures exhibition at Somerset  
service.

# cathedral

By Craig Seron  
Police were searching last night for three young intruders

The composer, whose other works include a ballet called "The White Bird", various symphonies, concertos, and



Pendant in  
18ct gold £130

Scotland Yard said the ralders were believed to be white and in their late teens or early twenties.

**Prix Goncourt awarded**

Moscow: Pravda says American  
nerve gas weapons for Europe

Madrid: Four years after  
Spain has been transformed

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Business features: High Step  
future of the NEB; Peter  
threat to the British textile  
American imports; Patricia T  
evaluation schemes

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Law Report 25 Sport

Scotland Yard said the ralders were believed to be white and in their late teens or early twenties.

# WARD

The Crown Jewellers



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John 10150

HOME NEWS

# Population trends must increase unemployment total

From Our Correspondent  
Unemployment in Britain will continue to rise even if the government succeeds in creating a million new jobs in the next five years. That warning is given in the annual Local Authority Social Services Conference, which opened in Birmingham yesterday, by Professor John Stewart, director of the Institute of Local Government Studies at Birmingham University.

Professor Stewart pointed out that the working age population was rising while the dependent population was falling. Numbers of school-age children would fall from 9.7 million in 1974 to 9 million in 1986, while the number of children would be coming on to the labour market in the next few years.

"The working population in this country... if it works... will increase by 1.2 million over the next seven to eight years," he said. "For almost the first time we have a rising working population and a falling dependent population."

It would be an enormous achievement if the Government could create another million jobs in the next five years, but unemployment would still continue to rise.

That was one of the realities of present-day Britain that must be looked at hard by social services, department, Professor Stewart said. Another was the likely change in local government financing as the difference between local political parties became sharper and the Government entered on the brink of taking decisive steps towards central control.

"I believe ministers do not yet realise the implications of what they're doing," Professor Stewart said.

The unitary grants system being proposed by the Government would inevitably lead to ministers having to justify in Parliament cuts in social services, or dismissal of teachers, in specific local authorities. The Government would have to state how much each authority should spend.

Professor Stewart told the conference that social services departments should be responding to calls for cuts in the context of the changed world of 1979, not the optimistic period of the late 1960s, when there was a general consensus that public services should grow. Full employment and growth had been replaced by high inflation and a level of unemployment that was likely to stay above a million for the next decade.

## Boarding party leaders leny causing ship affray

Two leaders of an operation which ended a crew dispute on board a giant oil tanker in 1977, headed not guilty at the central Criminal Court yesterday to causing an affray in the tip.

The two men headed a boarding party of 40 seamen hired on Grimsby to board the oil tanker Venus, which at the time was stranded at Le Havre by a pay revolt among the Filipino crew. Mr David Jeffreys, for the prosecution, alleged.

When the boarding party entered the vessel late at night, some of them armed with jacks and two-way radios, the 8-man crew gave up without a struggle. They were paid off ten next day.

Before the court were Raymond Miller, aged 33, a trawler skipper, of Worcester Avenue, Rimsby, and Algisair Glenzie, aged 33, of Courfield Gardens, Arls Court, London, who was an accountant of the ship's owners, Globik Tankers Ltd, based in London. The case is expected to last at least three weeks.

Mr Jeffreys said that while the tankers crew waited in the French port, they were visited by a representative of an organisation looking after the interests of merchant seamen called the International Transport Workers Federation.

The crew was in dispute with the owners, and 28 joined the Federation. Crew members refused to work the ship, which was already overloaded with oil and regarded as a serious fire hazard. The Filipinos would not let a relief crew on board.

The expedition, Mr Jeffreys said, was organized almost on the lines of a military or naval operation. Mr Glenzie went aboard and signalled by radio for the other men to storm the gang plank. "The Filipinos offered no resistance."

The trial continues today.

## Safety men at shipyard 'without supervision'

From Our Correspondent  
Night patrol men who were supposed to carry out vital safety checks on a new warship had not been supervised for a week before a fatal fire. Mr Andrew Rodger, chief safety officer at the yard where the warship was being fitted out, said at York Crown Court yesterday.

The men whose job it was to report any safety infringements on the destroyer, at Swan Hunter's Newcastle shipyard at Wallsend, Tyne and Wear, had lost their chief safety officer two months earlier.

Mr Rodger added that a deputy had taken over, but he had left to take up a job with another company and the men were not given any more supervision as to their duties.

Eight men died in a blaze on board the missile destroyer Glasgow after oxygen from a burner's hose built up and ignited in September, 1976.

The court was told that two other safety officers had been called in to supervise the safety checks on the ship but had not instructed men working on the night shift.

Mr Rodger told Mr Humphrey Potts, QC, for the prosecution, that shortly before the fire, factory inspectors and those from the Ministry of Defence and Admiralty had each checked the safety precautions on the vessel and had no complaints.

Swan Hunter have denied five charges under the Health and Safety at Work Act but their subcontractors, Telemeter Installation Ltd, who employed the victims, have pleaded guilty to three similar offences.

The trial continues today.

## Order against drug addict doctor

An Indian doctor who admitted being a drug addict and alcoholic was ordered to be struck off the medical register yesterday.

The General Medical Council disciplinary committee heard that Dr Arun Patel, aged 41, is undergoing psychiatric and medical treatment in India.

Dr Patel, who practised in Wembley and Slough, has been suspended since 1977, when he was fined £100 by Harrow magistrates for illegal drug prescription. He asked for 140 other offences to be taken into consideration.

The doctor has 28 days in which to appeal.

## New typhoid case

A second case of typhoid has been confirmed in south Devon. A girl, aged 12, has been admitted to Torbay Hospital, Torquay. Her mother was the first case.

## Whitehall brief: Can the Government break strikes? Part VI—the legal background

### Two key factors limit full use of emergency powers

By Peter Hennessy  
The Government is not short of legal weaponry for use during emergencies arising from industrial disputes. The Emergency Powers Act, rushed through Parliament during the miners' strike of October, 1970, enables the Home Secretary to place regulations before Parliament which, if approved, grant the state sweeping, if temporary, powers over the citizen and his property.

The question these days is not whether the Government needs additional legal backing in that area (picketing is a separate matter) but whether other factors—the availability and skill of alternative military labour, the mood of the country—allow it to make full use of its existing powers.

The Act has been used to declare a state of emergency 12 times since 1920. Historically, the Home Office has had the most frequent recourse to the statute, involving it five times between 1970 and 1973. Mr Edward Heath's successors have, so far, proved most reluctant to follow suit.

Mr James Callaghan preferred to use the Emergency Powers Act, 1964, a short measure designed to make certain defence regulations, passed in 1939, a permanent feature of administration. Under section 2 of the 1964 Act, troops can be used in industrial disputes without parliamentary approval, provided their use is authorized in a Defence Council Instruction (DCI) issued by order of the Defence Council and signed by two of its members.

Declaration of a state of emergency can therefore be avoided, provided the Government does not need powers to requisition property or equipment, or to save energy reserves by placing industry on a three-day week. Mr Callaghan used a DCI to break the firemen's strike of November, 1977, to January, 1978.

A fleet of Home Office fire engines, the "Green Goddesses", was available, a legacy from the period when the United Kingdom had a civil defence capability, and the military were not obliged, therefore, to enter picketed

fire stations to seize out any thought being given to the matter. They have since been deleted.

The firemen's strike, however, led the Ministry of Defence and the Home Office to review emergency powers legislation for the first time since 1964. The magazine, State Research, noticed that in Chapter 11 of Queen's Regulations, under the heading "Military aid to the civil authorities" (the official euphemism for strike-breaking), Regulation J11.004 (b) read as follows:

where there is no proclamation of a state of emergency and the emergency is limited and local the Defence Council may, under the Emergency Powers Act, 1964, authorize Service personnel to be temporarily employed on work which the council have approved as being urgent work of national importance.

The "Green Goddesses", State Research noted, had been used on a widespread and national scale. The Ministry of Defence, and readers of the underground press, looked into it. Officials discovered that the words "limited and local" had been inserted into Queen's Regulations in the 1960s when

Whitehall when the military came to terms with new realities after the mass picketing at the Salsley coke depot in 1972. The police are responsible for clearing a way for military convoys passing in and out of picketed installations. If, however, a chief constable sees his men becoming overwhelmed, he can, under common law, invoke the assistance of the military present in aid of the civil power.

It was not clear to senior officers in 1972 what the commander on the spot should do in such circumstances. The answer to that is now clear. He can accede to the request of the chief constable immediately without recourse to senior officers or the Secretary of State for Defence. Although, as Sir Robert Mark disclosed in his Metropolitan Police Commissioner report for 1975, in practice, the chief constable would first seek permission from the Home Secretary, who, in turn, would consult the Secretary of State before granting it.

Next: Lessons of the Recent Past.

## London airports link by helicopter can continue

By Arthur Reed  
Air Correspondent  
After a three-week public hearing held by the Civil Aviation Authority, during which strong environmental objections were voiced, the authority decided yesterday to grant a licence for the helicopter link between Heathrow and Gatwick airports, London, for a further four years.

But the authority is to forward a copy of its decision, together with the evidence taken at the inquiry, to the Secretary of State for Trade so that he can decide whether to direct the authority to revoke or vary the licence on environmental grounds.

The service, operated jointly by British Caledonian Airways and British Airways with one Sikorsky S61 helicopter, has raised many objections on the ground of noise as it flies over residential areas of Surrey to provide a link between the two London airports for passengers wishing to change flights.

A number of conditions have been attached to the new licence. Not more than 11 flights in each direction are to be operated in any one day, and not more than 70 flights in each direction in any one week.

No flight is to leave Heathrow or Gatwick before 7.10 am or after 9.15 pm (the authority rejected a starting time of 6.45 am for Mondays to Saturdays) and no scheduled flight is to be operated solely for the carriage of cargo.

Giving its decision, the authority says that a number of measures were suggested at the inquiry for ameliorating the noise disturbance.

Such measures would involve some increased costs for the airlines and substantially increased costs in terms of airport use, passenger convenience, the provision of air traffic services, delay to fixed-wing aircraft, and the transfer of noise to other areas.

The weighing of environmental disadvantages against commercial and public benefits is for political decision, the authority considers.

## Boy of 10 killed

Lee Mullert, aged 10, of Willenhall Road, Bilston, West Midlands, died in hospital yesterday after being in collision with a car on his way home from school. He suffered a fractured skull.

## Overeating a 'cause' of bad nutrition

By Our Agriculture Correspondent  
The quality of the average British diet is falling, especially in lower-income groups, scientists at Reading University said yesterday. They called for more government intervention in food policy to improve diets.

Their conclusions, which were published by the Centre for Agricultural Strategy, were immediately contested by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. "There is no evidence of under-nutrition in the public," the ministry said. It believed the most serious form of bad nutrition in Britain was probably over-eating.

The scientists said that a growing proportion of spending on food was being devoted to convenience foods in which nutrients were particularly expensive.

The ministry retorted that "in recent years there has been a recovery of food spending of which this report takes little account". Scientists at the strategy centre gave a warning that there was too much complacency about the British way of eating and its effect on health and wellbeing.

National Food Policy in the UK (University of Reading, 2 Earley Gate, Reading, Berkshire, RG2 5AS).

## Son alleged to have seen policeman kick sick man

From Our Correspondent  
Manchester  
A boy aged 12 saw a policeman kick his sick father in the ribs as he lay in the hall of their home, Mr Justice Tudor Evans was told in the High Court in Manchester yesterday. Mr Edward Platt, aged 36, the father, died a month later because the kick ruptured his spleen, Mr Bener Hytner, QC, said in a civil action.

Counsel said that in a statement while lying ill Mr Platt, a father of four children, claimed he was twice kicked by the same officer in the incident at his home in Woodstock Road, Moston, Manchester, on May 8, 1973.

Mrs Norma Wood, who has since remarried, is claiming damages for his death in a contested action against Greater Manchester police.

Mr Hytner, her counsel, said Mr Platt died from pneumonia and peritonitis. "Her case is that the spleen was ruptured by the kick from the policeman when he lashed out with his boot after losing his temper, possibly in revenge or retaliation after being struck himself by the deceased," counsel added.

Mr Hytner said the couple's son, Stephen, now aged 19, was the only witness of the alleged kick. The police had been called to the house by a doctor treating Mr Platt, who had been drinking and had a history of psychiatric trouble.

Counsel said Mr Platt tried to damage the telephone and prised a central heating radiator from the wall.

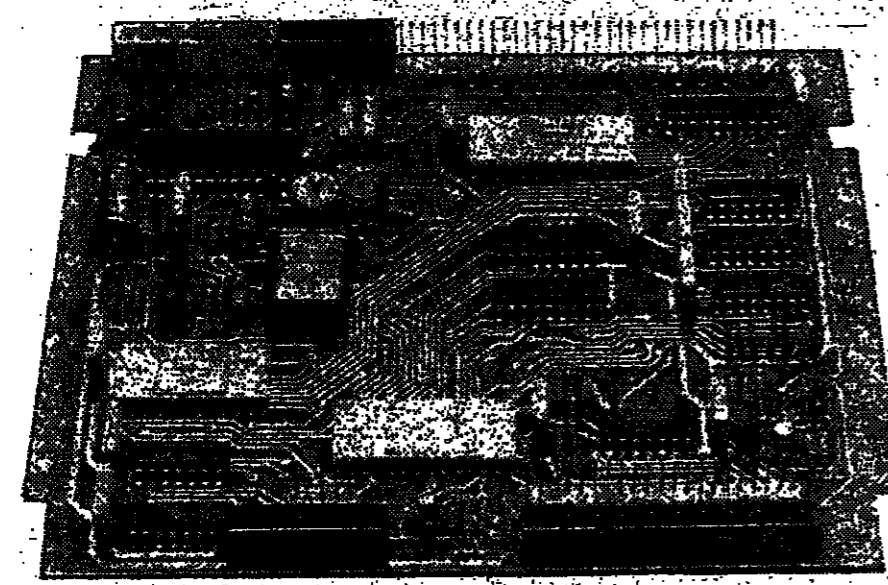
While Mrs Platt was upstairs the son saw his father lying handcuffed in the hall. Mr Hytner continued: "A policeman was standing with his foot on the neck of the struggling father. As he [the son] watched, he says, he saw the same officer kick his father in the left side."

Before her husband was taken to hospital he shouted to his wife "Remember 149, Norma don't forget 149". None of the five officers present had the number 149 but Constable Cecil Oiden was PC149.

Later, when he knew he was dying, Mr Platt made a statement to a solicitor, Mr Hytner said. He claimed he was kicked violently in the ribs by the same officer, PC149, who had said: "He cannot move now, I have got a bastard size 10 boot on his neck."

Mr Hytner said the defence was a denial of assault, that the injuries were either self-inflicted or lawfully caused when the officers were restraining Mr Platt.

The hearing continues today.



# It'll give you the FT Index or a cherry flan.

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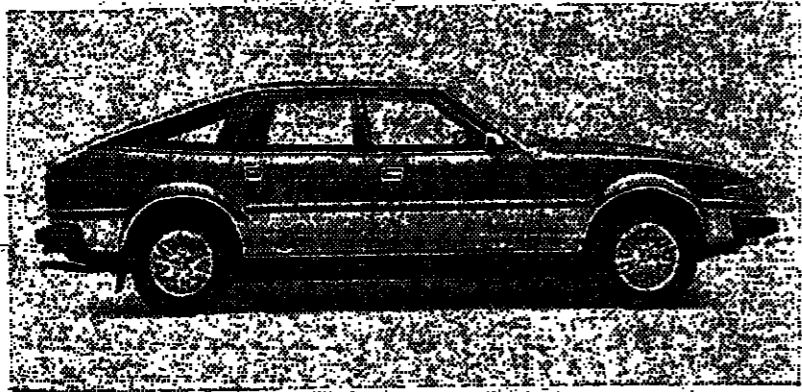


# WHAT SHAPE WILL YOUR CAR BE IN FOR THE 1980's?



## More economical shape

The motoring times are changing fast. Most of the big saloon cars designed for the '70s are beginning to look decidedly inefficient and out of date. With four notable exceptions. The new Rovers—2300, 2600, 3500 and V8S—were designed for the 1980's from their very conception, with a unique combination of high performance, high quality, outstanding design and quite exceptional fuel economy.



In the 1980's, a fuel saving aerodynamic shape will be essential. Rover's design is well ahead of its time and its competition. Rover elegance is a direct consequence of aerodynamic efficiency, giving an unmatched balance of performance with economy—the powerful Rover 3500, for instance, cruises at 36mpg\* and reaches 122mph.

## Better shape

The 1980's will demand better built, longer lasting cars. Every Rover passes through a succession of the most stringent quality control checks known in the car industry. The paint and protection process alone is one of the most sophisticated in the world: 2 layers of anti-chip primer are electrostatically bonded to the body before 4 coats of thermoplastic, anti-fade paint are baked on.



Long term durability is tested in conditions ranging from the Texas deserts to the Lapland snowfields.

## Safer shape

The 1980's will have their hazards. Today's Rovers are designed to protect you from them. They share a strong, monocoque body shell with impact absorption zones front and rear, and energy-absorbing compression struts in the door panels. The fuel tank is securely positioned in front of the rear axle and the system carries a fuel cut-out switch, to minimise accident fire risk. Every Rover is fitted with a



Triplex Ten Twenty Superlaminated safety windscreen. The brakes have a failsafe dual circuit. Inside, potential impact areas are padded and all the car's essential systems are monitored and displayed on the fascia.

The Rovers for the 1980's are obtainable now from your Rover showroom. A test drive will soon show you the difference between yesterday's car and tomorrow's.

# Rover. In great shape for the 80's.

\*Complete Government Fuel Consumption Figures. Rover 5-speed automatic 2300 urban motoring 17.5mpg (16.1 litres/100km), constant 36mpg (30 litres/100km), 36.3mpg (7.7 litres/100km), constant 75mph (120km/h) 31.0mpg (9.1 litres/100km). 2600 urban motoring 18.5mpg (13.3 litres/100km), constant 36mpg (30 litres/100km), 38.2mpg (7.4 litres/100km), constant 75mph (120km/h) 30.2mpg (9.4 litres/100km). 3500 urban motoring 16.2mpg (17.4 litres/100km), constant 36mpg (30 litres/100km), 36.3mpg (7.9 litres/100km), constant 75mph (120km/h) 27.8mpg (10.1 litres/100km). 5-speed gear box optional on the 2300. Car shown features optional alloy wheels.

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# COULD YOUR BANK MANAGER HELP YOU HAND OVER YOUR BUSINESS WITHOUT MOST OF IT GOING TO THE TAX MAN?

Sooner or later, everyone owning a business comes up against the problem of Capital Transfer Tax.

Which can mean that, if you're planning to hand your business over to your children or others, you can end up handing a lot of capital over to the Inland Revenue. You could even have trouble keeping the business going.

Not, perhaps, exactly what you had in mind; but then again, not exactly the kind of thing you'd expect your bank manager to help you with.

After all, nobody asks tax experts to lend them money—so who goes to a bank manager with tax problems?

Well, if he's a Midland Bank manager, maybe

you should. Because you can expect the unexpected from the Midland. You see, your Midland manager has at his disposal a wide range of specialist advisers and services who can, between them, help to answer all sorts of business needs.

In this case, he could put you in touch with Midland Bank Group experts who could suggest a number of ways in which you can properly minimise your Capital Transfer Tax liability. So that your capital ends up where you want it.

Start thinking of your Midland manager and his team as the people to deal with your business needs. Because, thanks to teamwork, you can expect us to come up with solutions you'd never expect.

You can expect the unexpected from Midland teamwork



**Midland Bank**

## OVERSEAS

# Patriotic Front guerrillas call for armed peace-keeping force of thousands to police cease-fire

By David Spanier  
Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Joshua Nkomo and Mr Robert Mugabe, the Patriotic Front leaders, yesterday called for a Commonwealth peace-keeping force "several thousand strong" as the vital condition of a ceasefire in Rhodesia.

Presenting their basic prin-

Presenting their basic principles for a ceasefire, the guerrilla leaders insisted that the British proposals for a mere monitoring force were quite unacceptable. A very substantial Commonwealth force, armed and equipped to enforce observance of the ceasefire should any breaches occur, was essential, they said.

the demand represents a fundamental difference from the British approach to a ceasefire, and poses some difficulty for Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, who is the conference chairman, in his declared aim of bringing the constitutional conference to a successful conclusion in a matter of a few days.

The British fear is that if the conference fails to act quickly, there is a serious risk of the negotiators reaching so far but coming "unravelling" in Salisbury.

Mr. Nkomo said yesterday that he too was in favour of speed and an agreement in a few days. But the Patriotic Front did not ignore the importance and sensitivity of the issues under discussion. Mr

**Mrs Margaret Thatcher and President Giscard d'Estaing entering No 10 Downing Street from Horse Guards Parade for their talks yesterday.**

## EEC Commission aims to cut farm support costs by £600m

**By Hugh Clayton**  
**Agricultural Correspondent**

The European Commission has devised new measures that would cut the cost of the common agricultural policy by a tenth. Proposals that will include a switch to genuine dairy farmers for excessive production will be discussed by the commissioners this week. If accepted by ministers they will cut costs by £600m.

Mr Fim Gundelach, the Agricultural Commissioner, said in London yesterday: "It is not the same as it is different." He was speaking to reporters after sprawling the

surpluses. The Commission's package will also include cuts in the cost of supporting other crops and processed horticultural crops.

The resulting savings fall well below the £1,000m at issue in the argument about Britain's contribution. But at £600m more they would be worth almost double the annual cost of financing Britain's comparatively small share of the Community's "mountains" of surplus food.

The largest shares are in West Germany, where earlier this year more than 500,000 tonnes of dairy produce, 800,000 tonnes of wheat and almost

1975—for correcting excess budget contributions.

That, however, according to calculations by the European Commission, would not reduce Britain's net debit, which is forecast to reach nearly £1,200m next year, by more than £300m, or £400m. Such a solution, Sir Geoffrey said, would be "clearly inadequate".

Sir Geoffrey Calculated that the maximum benefit available under the present mechanism would be to reduce the debit to its most charitable reckoning, with a net deficit three-quarters the size of that of West Germany and four times as big at that of

## Delegation seeks food supplies in Zimbabwe Rhodesia's 'huge shopping list'

From Nicholas Ashford Salisbury, New 14 Zambia is actively seeking a wide range of foodstuffs from Zimbabwe Rhodesia in a desperate attempt to make up for the serious food shortages confronting it. Six million inhabitants are being kept alive by a visit to Zimbabwe Rhodesia last week, armed with what farming resources in Salisbury described as a "huge shopping list of foodstuffs." Among the commodities most in demand by the Zambians were crop seeds, meat, fruit, vegetables, potatoes, and vegetable oil.

It is believed to have been the first visit by a Zambian delegation of this kind since the frontier between the two countries was closed in 1973.

maize, steel, kerosene, food, although these were not what the means being sought during last week's visit.

Contact between the two countries over the large-scale purchases by the Ministry of Zimbabwian Agriculture have been taking place (usually in South Africa) since last March when Zambia asked Zimbabwe Rhodesia to supply it with 3,500,000 tons of maize. However the Rhodesians had set certain conditions which were considered unacceptable by Zimbabwe Rhodesia — among them that the deal should be kept a closely guarded secret and that Zambia should not be allowed to buy the Zambia with two years' credit to purchase the maize.

In July the Zimbabwians made

Six weeks ago the Zambia having asked to reach agreement with the Salisbury authorities approached the So Africans for the supply 200,000 tonnes of maize. However, the Zimbabwe Rhodes Government has advised So Africa that it would not be possible to transport anything in that quantity of maize through Zimbabwe Rhodesia unless road links were reopened. In response to the So Africa's, Zimbabwe's current maize requirements stand at about 21 tonnes a day. However, every road and rail links were being operating it is estimated that only 1,500 tonnes a day could be provided through Zimbabwe Rhodesia.

Until last week 150 tonnes

A spokesman for a quasi-governmental agricultural agency described last week's visit as a "fact-finding mission." He wanted to find out what we could provide them and at what price. They clearly wanted to start making preliminary arrangements in the event of a formal purchase of land in Zimbabwe Rhodesia and a reopening of the border with "Zambia." He added that Zimbabwe Rhodesia had "embarrassing surpluses" of most foodstuffs which could be supplied at very satisfactory terms were negotiated.

The fact that Zambia is prepared to send a food-purchasing delegation to Zimbabwe Rhodesia before the Lancaster House talks here finish, is an indication of the seriousness of a food crisis.

The most pressing need is for

The Zambabwe Rhodesians, who have taken the complete reopening of the highway with the opening of the Zignen, especially the road bridge across the Zambezi at Chirundu.

President Kaunda of Zambia has reopened the railway bridge between Zambia and Rhodesia, which was closed at the end of this month. This time the Salisbury Government laid down conditions: In particular the Zambians were to allow the Rhodesians to transport 200,000 tonnes of minerals belonging to Mr Joshua Nkomo's Zambabwe People's Revolutionary Army (Ziapa) who are based in Zambia.

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transported in Zambia were  
the main reason for the  
brilliant success of the  
but the Salisbury Government  
has now placed an embargo  
further maize supplies  
Zambia because of continuing  
Zipra infiltration. The  
coming at a crucial stage  
clearly designed to put  
pressure on President Banda  
use his influence on  
Nkombe to accept the British  
proposal.

Another danger other than  
maize is still being moved in  
Zambia in the 35  
vessels which cross the Victor  
Falls bridge each day. The  
Rhodesians say it would not  
be possible to increase the amount  
of goods being moved across  
the bridge because of the length  
time it takes for the trucks  
to be turned round in Zambia.

**Salisbury raiders destroy vital bridge near Lusaka**

A French Canadian has become the sixth woman to win the leading French literary prize, the Prix Goncourt, since it was established in 1903. She is Antoinette Maillet, born 50 years ago in New Brunswick.

Her prize-winning book, *Éclat de la charette*, tells the story of the 10-year pilgrimage of the Acadians, exiled from their land by the British in 1755, first to New Brunswick, after the treaty of Paris relinquished any French claim to Canada in 1763.

Miss Maillet was influenced by the stories passed down in

where she was born. By the age of 13 she had become so involved with the history of the French Acadians that she refused at school to write anything in English.

The award of the prize reflects the growing tendency of the Goncourt jury to recognize the work of writers from the French speaking world rather than just from France itself.

The Prix Renaudot, considered as a kind of runner-up to the Goncourt was awarded to Jean-Marc Roberts, a 25-year-old Frenchman with an American father and French mother, for his book *Affaires étrangères*. It tells the story of a young man reduced to subservience by his

The British Government's complaints about the size of the country's payments to the Community next year will be devoted to a European " summit " in Dublin at the end of this month.

Asked how soon he wanted the Commission's plans to be completed, Mr Gundelach said : " It must be done before Dublin."

He explained that the new scheme would be aimed principally at increasing prices by sugar and beef. Those are the products which make the

Community budget looked as unbridgeable as ever after a meeting here today of finance and economic ministers of the Nine.

Plans allowing for brinkmanship in advance of the EEC "summit" in Dublin on Thursday and Friday next week, at which the budget issue will predominate, it is clear, will have to be a startling change of mood to produce an outcome acceptable to all parties.

Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, from his EEC colleagues, was that the British have a hope for an amended version of the present mechanism—negotiated

The Government would be satisfied with nothing less, Sir Geoffrey said, than a decision in favour of the Government in Dublin that would "take effect in the 1980 budget" and would be "directed towards" the restoration of a "broad balance" between Britain's contributions and receipts.

There was a strong hint from Herr Hans Mathöfer, the West German Finance Minister, that Britain's grievance might be viewed more sympathetically in recent years than in the 1960s, when, such as energy policy and the long-running fisheries dis-

From Our Own Correspondent  
Salisbury, Nov. 19

Mr. Ian Smith, the former  
Rhodesian Prime Minister, will  
be the guest of honor at a  
white Rhodesian Front party  
the coming pre-independence  
season.

According to Mr. Geoff  
Hawthorn, acting chairman of  
the party, Mr. Smith, who is now  
in Rhodesia without portfolio in  
Abel Muzorewa's  
government, was unanimously  
elected to carry on as leader of  
the party during a meeting of  
the party's 22-member caucus  
this week.

This announcement has ended  
speculation that Mr. Smith's  
departure would mean the  
end of the Rhodesian Front.  
Mr. Ian Smith, Minister of  
Finance, might be appointed  
leader.

Lusaka, Nov. 19.—Zimbabwe Rhodesian commands today killed three Zambian villagers and blew up a road bridge on the route linking Zaire to Malawi and Mozambique.

A Rhodesian soldier was also said to have been killed in an exchange of fire with members of the Zambian guerrillas who were guarding the bridge some 25 miles from Lusaka.

Eyewitnesses said the victim's body was left behind by the Rhodesian commandos who, after the bridge crumbled to the river bed.

Thousands of villagers abandoned their homes, and more than 1,000 boys fled the area, some to the north, some to the south, two miles from the bridge, and hid in nearby bushes.

Six helicopters said to be in

Zimbabwean Army colours hoisted over the Chongwe bridge and some of them dropped a shower of hand grenades.

An estimated 30 commandos flew back to Rhodesia after the explosion which produced a fireball about six miles away, the Rhodesian army said.

Earlier, President Kaunda of Zambia announced that "racist forces" and "rebel Rhodesian forces" attacked a road bridge on the main route to Tanzania at Mukuhi, 150 miles north-east of Lusaka, as well as a number of other bridges on the road to the north.

At least 20 deaths, 13 of which were more people have been killed in the Zimbabwe Rhodesian bush war, military headquarters in Salisbury said.

## Four years dismantling the Franco legacy

From Harry Debelius  
Madrid, Nov. 19

Spaniards awoke four years ago to news that they knew would change their lives. Death was the family-deposed General Franco.

With his death, just two weeks short of his eighty-third birthday, hope dawned for democracy after 36 years of dictatorship. At the same time there were widespread fears that the spark of the bloody civil war of 1936-39, which brought the old soldier to power, might somehow be rekindled.

Schools did not open that day. There were few persons in the streets. There was air of uneasy expectancy. Power was to be passed to a man whose ability to rule was at best a mystery, the then Prince Juan Carlos, Franco's personal son.

Thus Spain began one of the most remarkable transitions in history, dismantling an authoritarian system and installing a democratic one in its place, and in the bloodier manner than any persistent wave of terrorism which had its origins in the Franco era.

In his latter years, the

genuinissimo had assured his superiors that everything relating to the continuation of his regime was "knotted and well knotted".

Yet the granite slab weighing down his soul was not even in place over his coffin at this mausoleum in the Valley of the Fallen before his successor promised to foment "ever more real and effective participation of the people in the development and progress of the country" and to recognize "those social and economic rights whose purpose it is to assure to all Spaniards the material conditions that will permit the effective exercise of all their liberties."

But the "four pillars" still are incomplete. There are possibly as many as 200 Basque activists in prison, in police custody or awaiting trial, journalists are still occasionally tried for the publication of reports which displeased the authorities. The still has no divorce law. There are still well-founded suspicions of torture by police, and a great deal of day-to-day government is still done by decree.

There is still a long way to go, and it seems to have accomplished the almost impossible task of reconciling

portant minorities—at least to the extent of incorporating both the right and the left into a freely elected parliament. Spain has a democratic constitution incorporating broader guarantees than those listed in the constitutions of other democratic countries.

The Parliament is an increasingly effective forum and will become even more effective as a legislative body once it streamlines its internal administrative procedures. The opposition politicians accept the fact that legislation is the best alternative to rule by decree.

Spain is no longer the parish of the West. There is no serious doubt here that the country will become a member of the European Economic Community in the near future, although the stages of its economic adjustment may require several years.

The Communist Party, perennially named among the enemies Santiago Carrillo and La Pasionaria.<sup>14</sup> (Dolores Ibarruri), is as respectable as the Falange—and unlike the Falange it has ample representation in the Cortes. The Basques and the Catalonians have won the right to home rule.

All the films which the censors kept out in the past have been shown. The books which were subversive are displayed in plain view. The newsstands are full of magazines featuring comely nudies. Totalitarianism is conspicuous in night club. New theatre stages—and even on certain beaches.

There is a new climate in Spain, a climate of liberty, which is palpable, notwithstanding occasional incidents which are reminders of the old. Nevertheless, it will probably take another year before enabling legislation can be enacted to back up all the constitutional guarantees of freedom. Those guarantees in the new text of the constitution are the result of a fragile consensus and on the good will of policemen and judges.

There is a danger. Many Spaniards are disillusioned by the lack of increase in crime, high unemployment, the threat of fuel shortages, continuing inflation and the separatist violence. Some are losing faith in the ability of the system, which is new to them, to solve the problems and support for authorization solutions may be the result.

# held after Zurich raid

From Our Correspondent

Rolf Klemens Wagner, alleged to be one of West Germany's most-wanted terrorists, was arrested, in Zurich today after a bank robbery in which a woman pedestrian was killed and two policemen were injured.

Four men held up the Swiss Volksbank soon after it opened, getting away with 473,000 Swiss francs (£133,000). Alarmed by hideous alarms, police were after them as they ran from the bank into a passage leading to an underground shopping centre.

In the shooting, a woman was killed and another injured. One policeman was shot in the abdomen and a second one in the arm.

Herr Wagner was arrested as he sat quietly waiting for a tram. A former law student, he is allegedly associated with the Red Army. Some of the money found in a car abandoned by the raiders.

## 'Terrorist' held after Zurich raid

From Our Correspondent

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## Slowdown in the growth of crime in France

The growth of the crime rate in France is slowing down, according to figures released by the Statistical Section of the 1978 figures show that there has been an increase in the total number of reported crimes of just 2.38 per cent since 1977.

This is largely due to the fact that property criminals seem to be on the decline. The 1978 growth rate "since the early 1970s," whereas major crimes such as rape to murder, kidnapping and drug-trafficking are still on the rise. Property crimes represented only 6.68 per cent of the crimes reported during the year, but they accounted for 39.4 per

Offences involving drugs are growing almost faster than knowledge of any other area, with arrests up by 102.4 per cent on 1972. Of the 506 arrests last year, 316 were of foreigners, showing that France is being used as a distribution centre.

In what seems to be an attempt to halt this trend, the court in Draughton last week imposed very severe sentences on a West German drugs ring in which Marie Christina von Opel, heiress of the car manufacturing firm, played a leading role.

# US 'plans nerve gas weapons in Europe'

[illegible]

on limiting medium-range nuclear missiles to begin as soon as possible, Government sources said.

In a letter to the Soviet Union, yet unpublished, he was called for a program of "missiles reduction and on measures to diminish East-West mistrust."

He was apparently referring to a recent West German proposal for a program of "reduction of troops take place without waiting for a solution to the deadlock in the Vienna SALT reduction talks over how many Soviet troops are actually employed in East Europe."

The closest he was coming to Mr. Brezhnev was that he would reduce the number of Soviet SS-20 missiles in the western part of the Soviet Union.

But the plan to introduce Pershing 2 and Cruise missiles in West Europe, the Soviet offer was accompanied by an intense campaign of "propaganda and blackmail" against West Germany, said Herr Schmidt, however, "emphasizes that the situation and the simultaneous offer of arms limitation

negotiations, both due to be completed by the NATO Council in December, have equal priority.

Meanwhile, high-ranking sources in the British Army said that Mr. Brezhnev's visit to London was "a tactical move" designed to achieve a tactical agreement on the weapons would be within the range of Western Europe from anywhere but a very small area in the eastern part of the Soviet Union.

They said the offer to withdraw 25,000 men and 1,000 tanks would make no difference either, they said, because the tanks involved would probably have been replaced by more modern T-72s but which, as far as they were concerned, had been removed from the area.

The reduction by 20,000 of the Soviet Union's 400,000 men stationed in East Europe, they suggested, could disguise the fact that the Soviet Army may not be "forced" to reduce its troops. The population is expected to drop a drop in the number of young soldiers.

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## Procession of Escorts broken only by Pond

Stanny Mikolala, last year's champion, opened up a four-minute lead over his Ford Escort coachman, Al Vatanen, as the Lancia S4C and the Volvo 240 GLE started last night. They were followed by Russell Brookes, of Britain's fastest, making their last appearance before the works team arrived out of the top seven places: three other Britons, Malcolm Clark, John Taylor and Alan Clark, twice a previous champion.

Tony Pond, who was fourth most of the dry in his engine-fitted Talbot Sabaneer, sped to eighth place in his DeSoto, followed names, Bjorn Weldin (Escort) and Pendi Arvola (Volvo). The only Briton in the top ten after mishaps.

With two days of the nearly over, the only Briton in the top ten was Stig Blomqvist, whose Saab Turbo drove a water pump failure during the Lancia Foresto's last lap.

Mariko Aoki was leading the field on Saturday night in his Lancia Stratos on the road in a 1000 cc. class. He dropped down to twenty sixth. By yesterday he had found back to the place.

Although conditions were damp and with overnight making surfaces slippery, the top ten drivers were in leading positions as crews placed the tough Lake 2000 special stages on the overnight. The final leg will be contested on the Welsh mountains today tomorrow.

(after 30 special stages)

# Improbable field at Brighton

**Tennis Correspondent**  
It seems an improbable to say of Brighton in November but six players who have Wimbledon championships are playing tennis there this year. They are Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert-Lloyd, Virginia Riffe, Billie Jean King, who has won the singles, and two doubles champions, Ann Kiyomaki and Faye Stender.

In 1978, contested the F. I. H. F. world cup in the final and also reached the double final at Wimbledon. Miss Iwama won the corresponding tourney in 1979, but she is not to be rather reckless if she hit herself heavily to do it again.

As for the quarter-final pairings will be Miss Nara Iwama v Miss Kiyonoma, Mrs. Iwama v Mrs. Kiyonoma, Mrs. Miss Ward-Lloyd and Miss Ruz. Mrs. Ward-Lloyd, who lives in London, therefore, regard Brighton almost a local tournament.

Hanika, 10 days short of her 18th birthday, was born in Munich. Last May she captured by beating Dianne Fromholtz, the 1977 Wimbledon final of the Italian Champion in which she was beaten by Aspin.

Initially labelled the Da. Challenge, the Brighton event sponsored by a Japanese car

7. *Worth*, *M.* *beat* *Mias* *D.* *C.*  
 8. *Worth*, *M.* *beat* *Pimlrose* *L.*  
 9. *Worth*, *M.* *beat* *Mias* *F.*  
 10. *(France)* *beat* *Mias* *M.* *N.*  
 11. *(Italy)* *beat* *Mias* *D.*  
 12. *Worth*, *M.* *beat* *Mias* *D.*  
 13. *Worth*, *M.* *beat* *Thompson* *J.*  
 14. *Worth*, *M.* *beat* *US* *beat* *M.*  
 15. *Stewart*, *S.* *beat* *Mias* *D.*  
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# is face

personal and revealing in matters, fails to allow us that special sanctum.

One concludes from his start travelling to functions over the country that McMen is obsessed with public speeches and appearances. He seems able to resist the appeals

The most attractive feature of this readable diary is the honesty of his remarks about his players and other managers. He has a curious relationship with some of his own kind. At one point he accuses the Norwich manager, John Bond, of taking a "drive", but later admits to counselling him at a time of professional difficulty. Like most people on the public stage, club managers and players, he is used to being comforted. Surprisingly, McManis is no



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## Fashion

by Prudence Glynn

### Action men

Photographs by Harry Kerr.

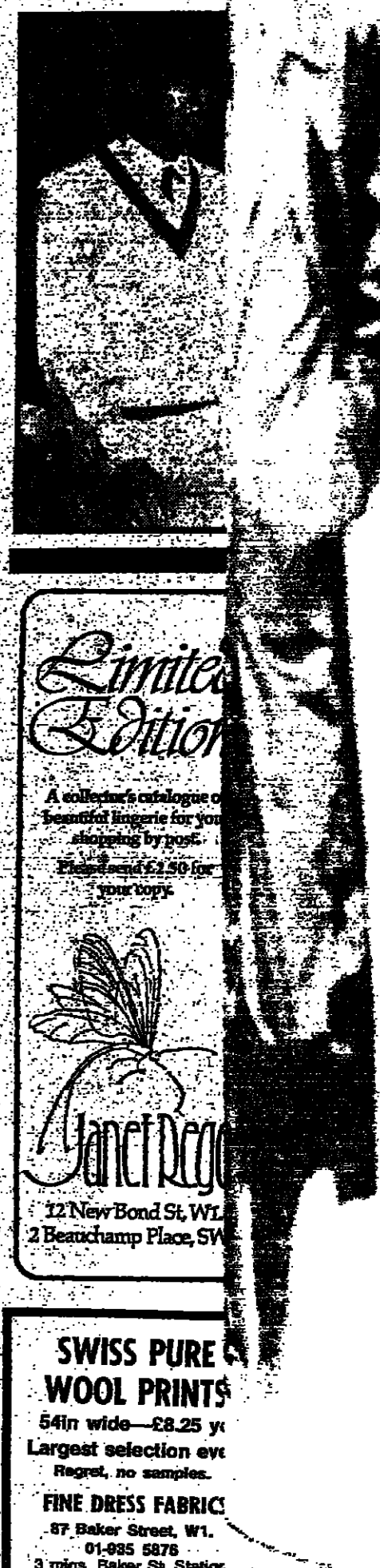


● Above: Jeff Sayre, the man himself, hottest name in men's fashion. Balloon jacket, all American look which is going to be IT when the tourists pour in next year.

● Above right: The sportswear look by Jeff Sayre. Big, padded jacket, striped cotton T top, shorts to match the waistcoat. Indicative of a lifestyle.

● Right: The new double breasted jacket. Originated by Hardy Amies, made public at Browns in their new shop at 182 Boulevard St Germain, Paris, or at South Molton Street. Note narrow lapel, low placed buttons.

● Far right: The All England look from Simon Burstein at Browns.



### Hardy: perennial

You might think that at the age of 70, and having achieved his name on the handle of a too brush, Hardy Amies might be taking things quietly and polishing up that diabolical forehead drive. You would be wrong. "C'est une pièce signée, Prudence darling" he informed me, waving this bristly baton in a manner worthy of Previn around the quiet splendour of his Savile Row office.

As a matter of fact the carpet was une pièce signée as well—an after coffee ability to focus on the floor announced that the pattern, cream on choc brown, read HA. I daresay the teacups had it on as well, certainly the Kay mail order catalogue, to which he is consultant, made good use of his name.

For Hardy Amies is the only British designer to have tapped the crucially lucrative market of licensing your signature. World wide he is the single best known ambassador of British fashion and style and why he has never got the Queens Award for Industry, given his consistent figures, I will never know. He certainly gets mine.

Any really clever designer knows that, properly promoted, long after the verve of the sketch pad had faded the name can linger on, and on. Of course it is not precisely a hindrance to be the designer who by far best dresses the Queen (pace Hartnell), has never let her frock fly up even on the gustiest tour, and got a busy lady to recognize that Frederick Fox was a better milliner than those manufacturers of pearl-studded tuffets.

On or around today, Hardy Amies is his own man again. After six years with the Debenhams store group, now busily divesting itself of peripheral activities to fight the high street battle (which, believe me, is tough) Hardy took the bold decision that he was *de trop* and, after a whirlwind romance with Lord Chelsea's business interests, he has bought himself back and, together with his sister, who, if I remember rightly, helped at the start of his career, he will transform the whole shebang into a trust; a trust to bene-

fit young designers, who will eventually have the use of his Cotswold barn as a working studio.

What really counts about Hardy Amies is that he influences the mass market. This is in my opinion the only yardstick by which to judge success. Hardy Amies may hold the Royal Warrant; but if you pop into Hepworth for a jacket you too can be aligned to the great, and at no great cost.

There are currently two jacket shapes which matter, and one of them is Hardy's. "It's all based on the blazer. The shoulder is wide, but soft. There are no darts on the front of the jacket. We've worked out how to do the narrow lapel which always, used to be possible only on a single breasted suit, on to a double breasted suit, which is the new thing."

Forget the old double breasted shape, where the buttons started wrapping you like a mummy from nipple level down. The new Lord Chelsea's business interests, he has bought himself back and, together with his sister, who, if I remember rightly, helped at the start of his career, he will transform the whole shebang into a trust; a trust to bene-

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## Fashion

### Jeff Sayre: the other jacket

The alternative jacket has shoulders the size of an American footballer but instead of slumping immediately over the torso it continues its bulky round. It is very difficult to cut, and the designer who cuts it best is Jeff Sayre.

This large, lugubrious, gingery coloured American in his 35 years old, was born in Los Altos, a small place in California, and studied genetics at John Hopkins University, which may account for his understanding of the human frame.

He worked for Geoffrey Beene, one of the most famous American menswear designers, took a shot at Montparnasse, and painting, did Aujard's new menswear line, but I best remember him for the stunning clothes on

the sportswear look that he did for Georges Rech.

Like Hardy Amies, he is now his own man, backed by a Dutch-Belgian group called Trencò. Apart from that ballooning jacket, which incorporates a cut under the arm reminiscent of Balenciaga, and I should imagine just as expensive to achieve, he is very clever on colours and fabrics. When he said he was going to show me dress clothes, I thought we were into the Fred Astaire bit again, but what he means is a pair of town trousers with a light plum shirt and a light green jacket, all made out of that sort of slightly shiny sateen you used to line curtains with.

He has a sharp eye; discussing the unrealities of Rodeo Drive, the shopping street in Beverly Hills, he remarks that the customers are tanned between their fingers, which makes the tan unreal too.

Sayre was the most talked about designer at the recent SEHM (Salon Habillement Masculin) menswear shows in Paris.



● Above: Jeff Sayre's "dressy" look: Sateen jacket, trousers and ciné overcoat.

Tommy Nutter: A clever mix. You can be Elton John, Andrew Lloyd Webber or Tina Turner and you can be dressed by Tommy Nutter, built at around £500 via Kilgour French and Stanbury of 33, Dover Street, W1, or you can get that look in his collections for Austin Reed. Mr Nutter describes the look as "cheerful", which, as the thermometer plummets, may seem the more vulnerable, but I am sure he is referring strictly to the shape.

Simon Eastman: Le Style Anglais. In September Simon Eastman of Browns, South Molton Street, licensed out the name and the menswear collection to a shop in Paris at 182 Boulevard St Germain. Stephen King for Otto Sports Ltd: Flying the Flag. I thought the British group at

SEHM in Paris the best ever, but Stephen King, a product of our art/design state funded system has the nous to know that we do not present ourselves correctly. More on the subject later: for now, claps for a very elegant collection.

Paul Smith: Market Gardening. Paul Smith has a new shop in Covent Garden and his strength is colour. The look is casual—a polo shirt under a gilet, under a cardigan in claret, beige, sage blue.

Sir Frederick Laker: The Greatest Influence on Fashion now. It is my contention that fashion is a reflection of lifestyles. Lifestyles are courageous and the next one we are going to catch is the American, now that he has made it the next Costa Brava.

## Poll tax one of five options studied as rates replacement

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government Correspondent

The Government is considering a form of poll tax as an alternative to the domestic rating system.

Although its long-term aim is the abolition of domestic rates, the Government is studying five options in reviewing the system. The suggestion of a poll tax emerged recently in the Commons when Mr Tom King, Minister for Local Government, undertook to consider that as an interim measure levied for each household might be changed by basing them on the number of persons on the electoral roll.

This would counter a criticism of the rates that in one house one person has to pay the rates, while next door there might be several wage earners in one family. Other options under consideration are local income tax, local sales tax, a payroll tax, and valuation of a property based on its capital value instead of its notional rental value as at present.

In the more immediate future, the Government is proposing two changes affecting the rating system, which are likely to be included in the forthcoming local government Bill. Having cancelled the revalua-

tion of properties which had been due in 1982, the Government now intends to replace the statutory requirement for rating revaluations with a power for the Secretary of State to determine the date of any future revaluations by Order.

This would be opposed by local authorities as yet another threat to the freedom of local government. As the law stands, a government must obtain the consent of Parliament if it wants to delay a revaluation.

The new proposal means that a revaluation would be undertaken only when the Government wished, and that would not be often. Although the existing law requires a quinquennial revaluation there have been only two since the Second World War.

The Government's other intention is to carry out a partial revaluation, which is likely to mean a revaluation solely of commercial and industrial property. Such a proposal is welcomed by the Rating and Valuation Association, which has submitted a memorandum to Mr Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The association says that shops in the West End of London are now let at eight times the existing 1973 list assessments, providing a direct subsidy to landlords.

## Talks fail on farm tenants'

By Hugh Clayton  
Agriculture Correspondent

Talks among farmers about the right to inherit tenanted estates have broken down after two years. The question of tenants' rights to inherit is one of the most bitterly contested in agriculture and the progress of the talks has been kept a closely guarded secret.

A law of 1976 gave the spouses and children of tenant farmers the right for the first time to inherit family holdings in England and Wales when the tenants died. The law overthrew the incontestable right of owners to take over their rented farms when the tenants died, irrespective of the wishes of the tenants' descendants.

The Country Landowners' Association claims that the law is reducing the supply of farms for letting. It has been negotiating since 1977 with the National Farmers' Union, which represents tenants as well as owners, about possible changes to the law of 1976.

Ministers have said that they will not sponsor changes until they receive joint recommendations from the association and the union. The union team in the talks has not produced a united view, and the association has decided not to continue waiting for it.

## British Isles have world's best helicopter rescue services

By Our Northern Correspondent

The rescue of two injured lifeboatmen by a Royal Navy helicopter crew last weekend has again emphasised the importance of the helicopter services.

Two lifeboats capsized in 30ft waves on their way to help a Danish coaster in distress off Barra Head. Both righted themselves but several members of the crew of the Barra boat were injured and two were lifted off by a Sea King of 819 Squadron from Prestwick, which provides cover in the Clyde area and south-west Scotland.

More British cooperation with the Irish Republic in air-sea rescue is likely since two Sea King helicopters were moved to the Royal Air Force base at Brandy, near Pembroke last month, marking the completion of a £20m re-equipment programme in the RAF's rescue service.

That and developments by civilian firms operating over the North Sea oilfields gives the British Isles the best coastal and mountain rescue cover by helicopter in the world.

RAF and Royal Navy rescue helicopters have frequently operated in, or overflown, the Irish Republic in recent years without the slightest diplomatic or political difficulties arising. The Sea Kings of Brandy have a range of up to 250 miles. The RAF Wessex rescue helicopters based at Valley, in

Anglesey, and the Navy's Wessex and Sea King aircraft at Culdrose in Cornwall are also well placed to assist in crises affecting ships and aircraft off Ireland's western coast.

A number of meetings have been held this year to ensure the smooth running of any rescue operations in the Atlantic that might involve the helicopters refuelling on Irish territory.

Under arrangements made by the 1947 Chicago convention of the International Civil Aviation Organisation, the United Kingdom accepted responsibility for aircraft in distress in an area stretching half way across the Atlantic to 20 degrees west and including the Shannon flight information region, a funnel for most transatlantic flights approaching Britain. The Irish Government appointed the RAF as its "agent" in that matter.

The RAF's No 202 Squadron consists of a fleet of mark 3 Sea Kings, designed and equipped for rescue work. The aircraft are kept at Lossiemouth, in north-east Scotland, Boulmer, in Northumberland, Colishall, in Norfolk, and Brandy.

Large United States Air Force helicopters are available for civilian rescue from the base at Woodbridge, in Suffolk. Two firms, British Airways Helicopters and Bristol Helicopters, offer rescue services

over the oilfields. The former, from Aberdeen operated under contract to the Department of Trade for three years, saving 100 lives; it now provides a similar service from Shetland. Since 1973 Bristolows, in conjunction with BP, have provided a rescue service in the Forties Field area, east of Aberdeen.

A similar arrangement was made earlier this year between Bristolows and Shell to provide cover from the Brent oilfield

## Three men stole weather cock

An army officer and two friends were each fined 50 by York magistrates yesterday after being found guilty of stealing a weather cock from St Michael's Church tower in the city. They said it was a prank. They are Lieutenant Christopher Hirst, aged 21, of The Royal Tank Regiment; Charles Town, a student of Elmfield Avenue, York; and Paul Widdicombe, an assistant shop manager, of Huntingdon, Yorkshire.

## Church's new role

A grant of £21,000 by the Cambridgeshire social services department will help to convert the nineteenth-century Free Church at St Ives to a community centre. The building will still be used for worship.

## BBC plans brighter afternoons

By Kenneth Gosling  
Arts Reporter

The BBC plans to introduce general entertainment television programmes in the afternoon. Proposals are expected to be given to the Home Office within the next fortnight.

The proposals, which cover the corporation's spending plans for the next decade, divided into two five-year periods, show limited expansion and an emphasis on consolidation. They will be made public.

The independent television strike pinpointed a deficiency in the BBC's afternoon programmes. Apart from sport and broadcasts for children, the BBC has never screened any general entertainment programmes in the afternoon. It hopes to remedy that by having about an hour's programme each afternoon. The programmes will be aimed at attracting housewives and shift workers.

Efforts will also be made to improve existing services by reducing the number of repeats and of imports from the United States.

There is a commitment to programmes in the Welsh language. In general, the BBC will explain to the Government that the emphasis in the 1980s will be less on expansion than on consolidation and re-equipment.

The Government will decide what the licence fee should be, taking into account the projected inflation rate and the BBC's overdraft. The submission of the corporation's detailed financial plans may be delayed until the dust has settled on the latest controversy over BBC television's current affairs coverage of Northern Ireland.

The licence fees of £25 for colour and £10 for monochrome were fixed on November 24 last year and were intended to operate for about twelve months. The BBC had asked for fees to be set for a three-year period.

## Moving of City migraine unit 'a disaster'

By John Roper  
Health Services Correspondent

The Princess Margaret Migraine Clinic, which is at St Bartholomew's Hospital in the City of London, is to be moved to the neurological department of Charing Cross Hospital, where it will continue under the National Health Service.

The move comes after an announcement by the Migraine Trust, which found most of the money for the unit, that it must close at the end of the year. In 1970 the unit cost £25,000 a year. That has doubled and a £10,000-a-year grant from the Department of Health and Social Security, made three years ago, will not be renewed at the end of the year.

Mr Derek Mullis, director of the trust, said that the move was in the interests of everyone concerned with combating migraine.

But Dr Marcia Wilkinson, a consultant at the clinic, said: "I think this will be a disaster for migraine research, because we were doing more for research into this condition than has ever been done." But it would need someone to provide £50,000 a year for five years to carry on the work.

The success of the unit springs largely from the fact that many City workers who have a migraine attack have been able to go to the clinic, where doctors have made an assessment before the attack is over.

One sufferer, Mrs Patricia Valden, a Surrey housewife, said she was cured at the clinic, and much of its good work would disappear if it became just another responsibility of the NHS.

She has begun a battle to raise money to keep the clinic open where it is. It would be possible to run the clinic for £35,000 a year if the staff was reduced. Approaches were being made to City livery companies.

Forecast: Wet and Dry.

When you come to think of it, rain has much to recommend it. Forced to remain indoors, one relies on one's own resources. Which, with a bit of foresight, should include plenty of ice and Martini Dry, with its clean, fresh blend of fine wines and herbs. Thus, every raincloud has a silver lining, because when it rains, it pours.

**MARTINI** Extra Dry.

The right one. Just by itself.









## Stock Exchange Prices

## Shares firm

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 19. Dealings End, Dec 7. C Contango Day, Dec 10. Settlement Day, Dec 17

Forward Bargains are permitted on two previous days

## John Flood

plant and machinery valuers

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Shares in Conder, the Winchester-based group specializing in steel-framed buildings, are to be placed with institutions and brokers today, at a price of 90p, giving the group a market capitalization of £7.4m.

Only 18 per cent of the group's equity is involved in the placing with the shares coming from family and staff trusts and two other big stakeholders, Tube Investments and George Wimpey. After the issue, 11 and Wimpey will continue to hold around 5 per cent each of the total shares.

The 90p market price represents a fully-taxed p/e of 6.4, although this drops to 3.4 on

charge and a gross prospective yield of 11.1 per cent.

Conder, which claims to match leaders in fabrication of steel-framed buildings and interests in building products and services and effluent treatment plant, is an intense newcomer to the City in respects.

Reflecting the philosophy the group's co-founder chairman, Mr Robin Cole, 2,000 staff are closely tied with decision-taking and in a substantial proportion profits as a bonus. After placing, directors and staff control directly or indirectly 60 per cent of issued share capital.

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## FINANCIAL NEWS

Costs catch up with MK  
and hold profits to £3.6m

Our Financial Staff. The group's two smaller companies, Ega and Insulators, fared a lot better during the half year and Mr. Robertson says that the companies were able to absorb the higher costs without seriously affecting profitability. Against the general trend Insulators managed to turn in sales of around £2m and chipped in profits of about £300,000.

Mr. Robertson's gloomy predictions made at the time of his annual statement seem to be coming true. Apart from higher interest rates, the group is concerned about the falling off of home orders.

The downturn in construction development, both in the private and public sectors, are beginning to bite into MK's order book. Over the past 12 months or so the shortage of new development has been shared up by higher activity in refurbishment, and the consequent rewiring, of existing buildings.

Exports and overseas operations have taken on an increasingly important role within the MK group. Although exports only produced about 20 per cent of MK's turnover the present order book is likely to contribute a much higher level of earnings during the second half.

The board is not making any predictions on the outcome of the second half except there is a question mark hanging over the group's ability to produce higher profits on the year than it did last time.

MK continues to hunt for a suitable European vehicle on which to base its overseas expansion. According to group executives no announcement is thought likely in the current year.

On the basis of a lower tax charge earnings per share are up 6 per cent to 20.05p against 18.91p and the board is recommending a half time dividend of 5p compared with last year's interim of 3.3p.

Ocean Wilsons slowed  
by exchange rates

By Alison Mitchell. The fluctuating fortunes of the Brazilian cruzeiro has taken the gloss off the six month figures of shipping and lighterage group Ocean Wilsons (Holdings).

In the half year to July 31, 1979, Ocean turned in pre-tax profits of £1.85m against a previous £1.75m on turnover down £900,000 to £19.4m.

However, had the results been stated in cruzeiros, turnover would have risen 59 per cent and pre-tax profit 77 per cent.

Although director Mr. E. Teideman could not quantify the exact cost of the new exchange rate—in the six months under review the number of cruzeiros to the pound has increased from 44.14 to 60.5—he did confirm that the group would suffer an exchange loss in the current year, compared with a surplus last time.

Ocean is currently reaping the benefit of a substantial rug building programme which is now servicing the ports of

Brazil, and much of the six month improvement stems from this side.

It also has a joint venture with Itacupe—which owns 15 per cent of Ocean's equity—to support Brazil's offshore oil industry.

For shareholders there is a same again interim dividend of 1.43p while earnings per share rose from 8.63p to 8.94p. At this level the shares, down a penny at 68p yesterday, yield 7.4 per cent historically and the p/e amounts to 7.7.

Apart from its trading activities in Brazil the group has an investment portfolio which is thought to account for around a third of Ocean's 90p asset value. The portfolio, largely United Kingdom based, is valued at over £4m.

The group chairman the Earl of Dartmouth will send shareholders an interim statement later this month which will give some indication about the trading prospects for the year as a whole.

## Skyships trying again

by Michael Prest

Thermo-Skyships is making a second attempt to get off the ground. The Isle of Man designer and developer of a new kind of lighter-than-air craft has issued a fresh prospectus asking investors to subscribe up to £3.2m.

But investors will only have to chip in with £1.4m to ensure that the project progresses to its next stage. In total the eventual development of a pre-production aircraft will need £30m.



An artist's impression of a Thermo-Skyship.

The company failed to arouse sufficient investor interest in its June prospectus when it tried to raise a total of £5.4m but only managed £400,000, partly because of the complexity of the proposals and partly because little institutional support was forthcoming. The first attempt was launched by London stockbrokers Laing and Cruikshank.

But the company hopes that this time the £1.4m is better considered and that it already has sufficient support to encourage more investors. European Ferries, has retained its 30 per cent stake, and will effectively transmute its current loan capital into 12m ordinary shares at £1.25 each, if the full amount is subscribed. A total of £2.56 shares is on offer.

The new attempt is being

managed by the Manchester stock brokers John Siddall and the Glasgow stockbrokers Parsons. Mr. Richard Harcourt, of Siddall says that after the collapse of the last offer his firm was approached by several institutions and investors in the north who were still interested in Thermo-Skyship.

The project has now attracted serious interest from four Scottish institutions and one in London. In addition, discussions with the Belgium, French and United Kingdom governments on the £27m which will be required to take the aircraft's development to an advanced stage are going well.

Mr. Malcolm Ween, chairman and managing director of Thermo-Skyships, warned that if sufficient backing could not be raised in this country, there was plenty of interest elsewhere in Europe. French investors have expressed great interest and the offer from their government is most attractive. He stressed, however, that the company wants to stay in the United Kingdom.

Laporte  
ets a  
to go  
n rights

Alison Mitchell. In chemical manufacturer Laporte Industries have given the thumbs up to the recent £10.6m issue.

Only 41.8 per cent of the shares were taken up, and that some 25 per cent went to Laporte's major shareholder, the giant Solvay.

He terms of the issue were for four at 55p and last it the shares closed in the ket a penny up on the day 13p. The issue was underwritten by merchant bankers Warburg.

July 1977 the group raised m with a one-for-four at of which there was a 93 cent acceptance.

ve current cash call is ssary to support a high l of capital spending—h the board puts at £16m 1978-80.

t the last year-end, on De- ber 31, 1978, the group had borrowings of just under 75m against shareholders funds £75m giving a gearing of e 32 per cent.

t the first six months of current year pre-tax profits from a previous £4.7m to m on sales £7m higher at 7m.

## Town Centre portfolio now valued at £50m

A revaluation of Town Centre Securities' property portfolio gives the group, headed by Mr. Arnold Zell, a £19.4m boost to £50m.

The group continues to nudge ahead, with gross revenue up from £2.96m to £3.21m, while pre-tax profits came out at £51,611, against £300,000.

Despite the recent hike in M.L.R. Town Centre continues to push ahead with its development programme, which includes redevelopment of part of the Blackpool Winter Gardens into a two acre shopping centre. The £11m scheme is being undertaken with the Blackpool Tower Company which owns the Winter Gardens.

Town Centre is also making progress with its major industrial development in Edinburgh which, when completed, will provide between 300-400,000 sq ft of space. But its recent refurbishment of the old Central Electricity Generating Board's offices next to the Leeds Meriton Centre providing 70,000 sq ft is still under way.

The board proposes to recommend a one-for-two scrip issue.

Rowton Hotels buys Grand's freehold

Rowton Hotels has exchanged contracts for the acquisition of the freehold of the Grand Hotel, Southampton Row, London WC at a cost of £840,000. The lease was due to expire in June 1980 and the proposed purchase

will allow the hotel group to refurbish or alter the Grand. It is being financed through the sale of some of Rowton's listed investments.

Life assurance business up 35 pc

New annual premiums for individual life assurance rose by 35 per cent in the third quarter of the current year to £176m, compared with £130m in the corresponding period of last year.

This takes the total new annual premium business for the first nine months of the year up by 27 per cent to £495m according to figures revealed yesterday by the three big life insurance associations. New single premiums during the latest three months rose £10m to £150m.

Albert Martin streamlines

In line with its expansion policy, Albert Martin Holdings has reorganized its group structure. Mr. Michael Kidd has been appointed deputy chairman and joint managing director of the group with the present chairman Mr. Charles Martin.

The group's subsidiary companies have been reorganized into three main divisions and holding company directors have been appointed as divisional chairmen.

Chairman of the Albert Mar-

tin division which produces men, ladies and children's clothing for Marks & Spencer is Trevor Machin.

The Martin Emprex division is now under the chairmanship of Clive Spalding and Mr. Alasdair Auld is chairman of the knitwear division which controls Albert Martin Knitwear and the recently acquired Cooper and Roe.

British Vita may bid for Vita-Tex

The Vita-Tex, the knitted fabric manufacturer, was suspended yesterday at the company's request pending an announcement. The Slough-based group which exports 22 per cent of its £3m turnover, made £803,000 pre-tax profit in 1979.

Later it was revealed that discussions were taking place which may lead to an offer being made by British Vita for Vita-Tex. A further announcement will be made as soon as possible. British Vita is being advised by N. M. Rothschild, and Vita-Tex by S. G. Warburg.

LCA enters US display market

LCA, suppliers of advertising material to hotels, has acquired for a nominal sum the trading assets of the New York-based Lobby Displays Corporation, which services hotel showcase advertising facilities in much the same way as LCA. It

already operates in the United Kingdom and Europe.

In addition, Lobby Displays has access to display advertising sites in a number of America's major sports arenas and airports.

Mr. John Goffar, chairman of LCA said that although the business of lobby displays has been largely dormant for some years, and it is not expected to contribute to LCA profits in its first year it gives a first-class opportunity to enter the important American market.

LCA ENTERS US 19-11-79

BOC International in Swedish deal

BOC International has agreed with AB Fortia, Sweden, to buy the remaining 50 per cent of shares in Mediada AB, the Swedish medical equipment company which, since 1973, has been under the joint ownership of both parties.

Mediada trades as part of the Mediashield Corporation, BOC International's health-care subsidiary. The company's product range includes anaesthesia and analgesia equipment, medical gas mixing devices and booms and pendings for medical gas supplies. It has its head office in Stockholm and a factory in Gothenburg.

Completion of the acquisition is scheduled for December 31, 1979.

The consideration involved is not material in relation to the net assets of BOC International

## Brokers quiz Government

By Richard Allen  
Insurance Correspondent

Insurance brokers are pressing the Government to clarify its stance on the question of tax relief on life assurance premiums.

The industry fears that the Government may eventually remove the 17 per cent tax relief available on life assurance business, have apparently not been completely played as a result of recent policy statements.

Last week, however, Sir Keith Joseph in a speech to the National Association of Pension Funds stated that it was not the Government's intention to change the tax relief provisions on pension scheme contributions.

This has spurred Mr. Robert McGrindle, MP, parliamentary consultant to the British Insurance Brokers' Association to write to Mr. John Biffen, chief secretary to the Treasury, calling for a similar assurance in respect of life assurance relief.

In his letter he says that if pension scheme contributions are to remain tax deductible then presumably so will self-employed retirement annuities. This would mean that if life assurance relief was removed people who had chosen to provide for their retirement by endowment policies would be penalised.

"In addition," he says "at

a time when the Government is rightly encouraging self help and thrift, any action which would discourage 30 million policy-holders from continuing to pay their premiums would be most unfortunate."

Removal of tax relief could be a severe blow for the life insurance industry and particularly for insurance brokers who have increasingly specialised in selling tax efficient schemes in recent years. However, the Government has so far stated that any major changes it may wish to make as part of its plans to simplify taxation must wait until there is leeway for a significant overall tax reduction.

## Advance by Stocklake

Stocklake Holdings, the steel stockholding group which has a profitable footing in Zimbabwe Rhodesia through its British Rhodesian Steel subsidiary, has turned in a small profit increase at the year end.

Pre-tax profit rose by 7 per cent to £1.36m while turnover increased by 6 per cent to £25.7m in the year to March 31

1979. These results did not include those of BRS which was estimated last year to be worth £750,000 pre-tax profit. A final dividend of 3.46p gross against 3.16p has been recommended making a total of 4.67p gross. Earnings per share have risen from 14.3p to 17.5p. Earlier this year the group reported difficult conditions for its Canadian shoe importing operation which has since made a good recovery while the steel stockholding businesses in Africa continued to make good progress.

In the U.K. the Adam and Harvey group's profits were ahead in spite of disappointing results from its textile and agricultural machinery interests.

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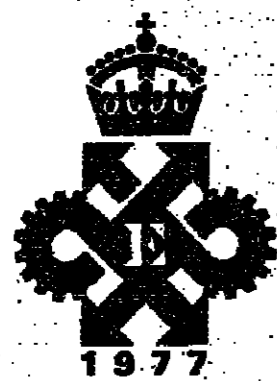
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## Exclusion of doctors' wives not invalid

to the appellant had been introduced. For that and other reasons, the conviction was unsafe and unsatisfactory and was quashed.

Solicitors: Oxley & Coward, Rotherham; Mr D. R. K. Seddon, Mallock.

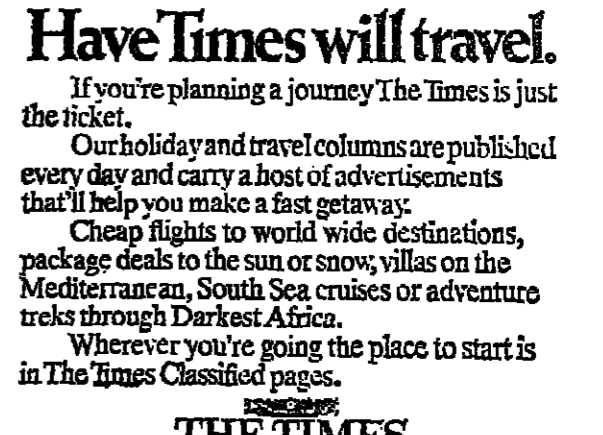
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